

1: Dictionary of Business and Management - Oxford Reference

*The Modern American Business Dictionary [John Berenyi] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers.*

Backfill After someone has been sacked â€” sorry, "transitioned" â€” they tend to leave a person-shaped hole in the landscape. What do you do with a hole, especially a person-shaped one that reminds you a bit of a hastily dug grave? You fill it in â€” in other words, you backfill verb, or address the backfill noun. Originally, backfill was an engineering term, meaning to fill a hole or trench with excavated earth, gravel, sand or other material. Now it means "replacement" or "replace", eg: A manager who tells you to do something by end of play or by close of play â€” in other words, today â€” is trying to hypnotise you into thinking you are having fun. This is not a sodding game of cricket. End of whose day, exactly? Perhaps the boss is swanning off at 3pm while everyone else will have to stay till 8pm in order to get it done. A day can be an awfully long time in office politics. **Drill down** Far be it from me to suggest that managers prefer metaphors that evoke huge pieces of phallic machinery, but why else say drill down if you just mean "look at in detail"? Like many examples of bureaucratise, drill down has a specific sense in information technology: **Expectations** Expectations are flexible things, and people will no doubt carry on having them even if the lingo surrounding them is logically complete nonsense. For example, one source reports: It would be good if employees were able to manage the expectations of their managers, but managing expectations usually means something more outward-facing and defeatist: Using this exhortation to mean "give it a try" or "test it" came to prominence in the s Madison Avenue advertising industry. It derived from a yarn that was doing the rounds about the first US president, George Washington. When Betsy Ross presented the new American flag to him, he was supposed to have quipped: Later variations on the theme include: Comes out from where? There seems no end to the forced jollity and despair-inducing implied exclamation mark of such constructions. Its origin, in American engineering and military circles of the early 20th century, is an exhortation for all the members of your squad or crew to pay attention because something potentially dangerous is about to happen. They should literally straighten their necks and raise their heads. So the call "Heads up! **Issues** To call something a "problem" is utterly verboten in the office: The critic and manager Robert Potts translates "There are some issues around X" as: Sometimes the made-up journey is a group affair, like a school outing. So businesses infantilise their employees by saying they have all been on a fascinating voyage together, when in fact many of their colleagues have been brutally thrown from the bus. As one infuriated correspondent explains: But why the hell is everything key? Is there some kind of subliminal phallic titillation to the image of key things penetrating the welcoming oiled openings of locks? You can even have key asks, which are not small free-standing shops that sell newspapers or develop film. Once you start calling so many things key, of course, semantic inflation dissolves its sense almost entirely. **Leverage** The critic Robert Potts reports this parodic-sounding but deathly real example: To leverage, in such examples, usually means nothing more than "to use" or "exploit". The verb "leverage" began to be used in the late s specifically for a technique of speculating with borrowed money. So executives who dream of leveraging synergies seem to be unconsciously conveying the message that they are taking a huge gamble that might result in disaster. Give me a place to stand and I will move the world, said Archimedes. **Matrix** The matrix is everywhere you look in the modern office. You can have an accountability matrix AKA a responsibility assignment matrix, a functional matrix, a project matrix and so on ad nauseam. Of course, there is even a sub-species of management called â€” you guessed it â€” matrix management. Are all these matrices separate universes of virtual reality in which workers are drugged and asleep in a post-apocalyptic world, with a virtual reconstruction of human civilisation beamed directly into their brains so the evil masters of each matrix can use their bodies as batteries? The truth is not so interesting. What is the matrix? **No-brainer** The phrase "a no-brainer" originated in sport, to describe a physical action in football or tennis that was so well-drilled it required no conscious thought. Its subsequent office adoption to mean "obviously a good idea", however, is both inverted boast and threat. It is thus an announcement and a recommendation for perfect zombie-like stupidity. I thought we were human beings in the same room

communicating with each other by making noises with our faces! There, a paradigm is a whole way of understanding the world, and a paradigm shift is a dramatic transfiguration in that understanding. Paradigm shifts are hugely important intellectual developments such as "the Copernican, Newtonian, chemical and Einsteinian revolutions". Sadly, owing to the widespread phenomenon of linguistic deflation, it has since become possible to call a much less world-shattering change a paradigm shift. Now, the author claims, "a discontinuous paradigm shift in management is happening. Instead, firms are going to pretend that they are not completely self-interested and really care about their customers. Quality The ubiquitous business use of quality has become a kind of totem. But the insertion of quality into a business slogan or mission statement is also sometimes camouflage for less sunny intentions. Rather than delivering TV and radio programmes first? Or perhaps they meant delivering quality first and garbage later? Delivering Quality First actually meant sacking 2, workers. Revert "Let me revert" is a common way now of promising to do something. Whatever was wrong with those? Perhaps it is the echo of "pervert". I do recommend that if anyone ever promises to revert back to you, you should shout as loudly as you can that this means "get back back", and then start doing a bad chimp dance with optional hooting noises. When faced with the choice between calling a spade a spade or using a cloying euphemism, you know which the bosses will choose. Happily, sunseting also sounds less smelly than the venerable old mothballing. The more serious problem with thought-showering is that it is rarely effective. Unless thought showers are carefully planned and directed, they tend to encourage group conformity and repress individual creativity. Upskill Have you been upskilled lately? To say that you will upskill a person seems to figure the subject as a kind of upgradeable cyborg assistant, into which new programs may, at any time, be uploaded so as to improve its contribution to profit. We are thus invited to imagine a glorious ascent of a virtual ladder of "competencies", the better to forget that upskilling usually means demanding more work for the same pay. Vertical Oh, right, the verticals. Oh, we need to talk about "content strategy in a difficult vertical"? According to Forbes, a vertical is: If you make project-management software for the manufacturing industry as opposed to the retail industry, you might say: Apple, for example, is sometimes thought of as a vertical company because it makes "the whole widget" both hardware and software. Vertical integration can also be a matter of owning the factories that supply your components, and so forth. In consulting lingo, meanwhile, a vertical can just be a new industry that you want to move into, by setting up a separate business unit. Oh, you know what else is vertical right now? Office types who use workshop as a verb probably imagine doing tough things with hammers and saws and vices in a sawdust-strewn shed, so picturing the frustrating immateriality of most modern work as something nostalgically physical and mechanical. But to workshop as a verb is actually a theatrical usage that dates from the 19th century; according to the OED, it means: The first approach assumes that people hate working and crave security, and have to be forced with threats of punishment to do what you want. The second approach assumes that people like to make an effort, are better motivated by rewards and are naturally creative. The word probably appeals to management types for two reasons. The first and more obvious is that yield is also a noun in finance meaning the expected income from a bond or other holding. The second reason, I suspect, is an obscurely martial or psychosexual one: Alternatively, you can speak as though you were a computer that has a finite number of "cycles" of its internal clock to perform calculations within a given time. So you can say, in response to a request that you do some extra work:

2: modern | Definition of modern in English by Oxford Dictionaries

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A Chinese dictionary, the *c. Philitas of Cos fl.* Written in verse, it listed around 10,000 words. The oldest existing Japanese dictionary, the *c. In Frahang-i Pahlavig*, Aramaic heterograms are listed together with their translation in Middle Persian language and phonetic transcription in Pazardan alphabet. Arabic dictionaries were compiled between the 8th and 14th centuries CE, organizing words in rhyme order by the last syllable, by alphabetical order of the radicals, or according to the alphabetical order of the first letter the system used in modern European language dictionaries. The *Qamus al-Muhit* is the first handy dictionary in Arabic, which includes only words and their definitions, eliminating the supporting examples used in such dictionaries as the *Lisan* and the *Oxford English Dictionary*. The *Catholicon* by Johannes Balbus, a large grammatical work with an alphabetical lexicon, was widely adopted. It served as the basis for several bilingual dictionaries and was one of the earliest books in to be printed. In 1565 Robert Estienne published the *Thesaurus linguae latinae* and in his son Henri Estienne published the *Thesaurus linguae graecae*, which served up to the 19th century as the basis of Greek lexicography. It served as the model for similar works in French and English. Between 1604 and 1606 was published the *Vocabulario portuguez e latino* written by Raphael Bluteau. The *Totius Latinitatis lexicon* by Egidio Forcellini was firstly published in 1678; it has formed the basis of all similar works that have since been published. The first edition of *A Greek-English Lexicon* by Henry George Liddell and Robert Scott appeared in 1843; this work remained the basic dictionary of Greek until the end of the 20th century. In the same year appeared the first volume of the *Woordenboek der Nederlandsche Taal* which was completed in 1866. The *Duden* dictionary dates back to 1781, and is currently the prescriptive source for the spelling of German. The decision to start work on the *Svenska Akademiens ordbok* was taken in 1786. The word "dictionary" was invented by an Englishman called John of Garland in 1159; he had written a book *Dictionarius* to help with Latin "diction". The only surviving copy is found at the Bodleian Library in Oxford. This dictionary, and the many imitators which followed it, was seen as unreliable and nowhere near definitive. *Glossographia* by Thomas Blount, published in 1674, contains more than 10,000 words along with their etymologies or histories. This created more interest in the dictionaries. Many people today mistakenly believe that Johnson wrote the first English dictionary: It took nearly 50 years to complete this huge work, and they finally released the complete OED in twelve volumes in 1928. It remains the most comprehensive and trusted English language dictionary to this day, with revisions and updates added by a dedicated team every three months. One of the main contributors to this modern dictionary was an ex-army surgeon, William Chester Minor, a convicted murderer who was confined to an asylum for the criminally insane. In 1858 Webster began compiling an expanded and fully comprehensive dictionary, *An American Dictionary of the English Language*; it took twenty-seven years to complete. Webster completed his dictionary during his year abroad in Paris, France, and at the University of Cambridge. His book contained seventy thousand words, of which twelve thousand had never appeared in a published dictionary before. As a spelling reformer, Webster believed that English spelling rules were unnecessarily complex, so his dictionary introduced American English spellings, replacing "colour" with "color", substituting "wagon" for "waggon", and printing "center" instead of "centre". He also added American words, like "skunk" and "squash", that did not appear in British dictionaries. At the age of seventy, Webster published his dictionary in 1828; it sold 100,000 copies. In 1840, the second edition was published in two volumes. Types In a general dictionary, each word may have multiple meanings. Some dictionaries include each separate meaning in the order of most common usage while others list definitions in historical order, with the oldest usage first. Dictionaries are most commonly found in the form of a book, but some newer dictionaries, like *StarDict* and the *New Oxford American Dictionary* are dictionary software running on PDAs or computers. There are also many online dictionaries accessible via the Internet. Specialized dictionaries Main article: Specialized dictionary According to the *Manual of Specialized Lexicographies*, a specialized dictionary, also referred to as a technical dictionary, is a

dictionary that focuses upon a specific subject field. Following the description in The Bilingual LSP Dictionary, lexicographers categorize specialized dictionaries into three types: A multi-field dictionary broadly covers several subject fields e. For example, the language Inter-Active Terminology for Europe is a multi-field dictionary, the American National Biography is a single-field, and the African American National Biography Project is a sub-field dictionary. In terms of the coverage distinction between "minimizing dictionaries" and "maximizing dictionaries", multi-field dictionaries tend to minimize coverage across subject fields for instance, Oxford Dictionary of World Religions and Yadgar Dictionary of Computer and Internet Terms [21] whereas single-field and sub-field dictionaries tend to maximize coverage within a limited subject field The Oxford Dictionary of English Etymology. Another variant is the glossary , an alphabetical list of defined terms in a specialized field, such as medicine medical dictionary. Defining dictionaries The simplest dictionary, a defining dictionary , provides a core glossary of the simplest meanings of the simplest concepts. From these, other concepts can be explained and defined, in particular for those who are first learning a language. In English, the commercial defining dictionaries typically include only one or two meanings of under words. With these, the rest of English, and even the most common English idioms and metaphors , can be defined. Noah Webster , intent on forging a distinct identity for the American language, altered spellings and accentuated differences in meaning and pronunciation of some words. This is why American English now uses the spelling color while the rest of the English-speaking world prefers colour. Similarly, British English subsequently underwent a few spelling changes that did not affect American English; see further at American and British English spelling differences. American Heritage goes further, discussing issues separately in numerous "usage notes. Because of the widespread use of dictionaries in schools, and their acceptance by many as language authorities, their treatment of the language does affect usage to some degree, with even the most descriptive dictionaries providing conservative continuity. In the long run, however, the meanings of words in English are primarily determined by usage, and the language is being changed and created every day. The roots of language are irrational and of a magical nature. Dictionaries for natural language processing In contrast to traditional dictionaries, which are designed to be used by human beings, dictionaries for natural language processing NLP are built to be used by computer programs. The final user is a human being but the direct user is a program. Such a dictionary does not need to be able to be printed on paper. The structure of the content is not linear, ordered entry by entry but has the form of a complex network see Diathesis alternation. Because most of these dictionaries are used to control machine translations or cross-lingual information retrieval CLIR the content is usually multilingual and usually of huge size. In order to allow formalized exchange and merging of dictionaries, an ISO standard called Lexical Markup Framework LMF has been defined and used among the industrial and academic community.

3: The Ridiculous Business Jargon Dictionary

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6: The Modern American Business Dictionary, John Berenyi. (Paperback)

Starting a restaurant business requires scrupulous planning, intense micro-management and a heavy initial investment, but if successful, it can blossom into a rewarding and long-lasting business.

7: What is American service? definition and meaning - www.enganchecubano.com

modern definition: 1. designed and made using the most recent ideas and methods: 2. of the present or recent times, especially the period of history since around 3. existing in the present or a recent time, or using or based on recently developed ideas, methods, or styles.

8: Dictionary - Wikipedia

The Ridiculous Business Jargon Dictionary: A-words Do you wonder where your co-workers picked up all the ridiculous things they say? From fresh-faced interns to top management, everyone drops one of these gems occasionally.

9: Modern | Definition of Modern by Merriam-Webster

'It will help to demystify terms such as bear hugs, white/grey knights, cash-cows and churning strongly recommended'â€”TES This wide-ranging and authoritative dictionary contains 7, entries covering all areas of business and management, including marketing, organizational behaviour, business strategy, law, and taxation.

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